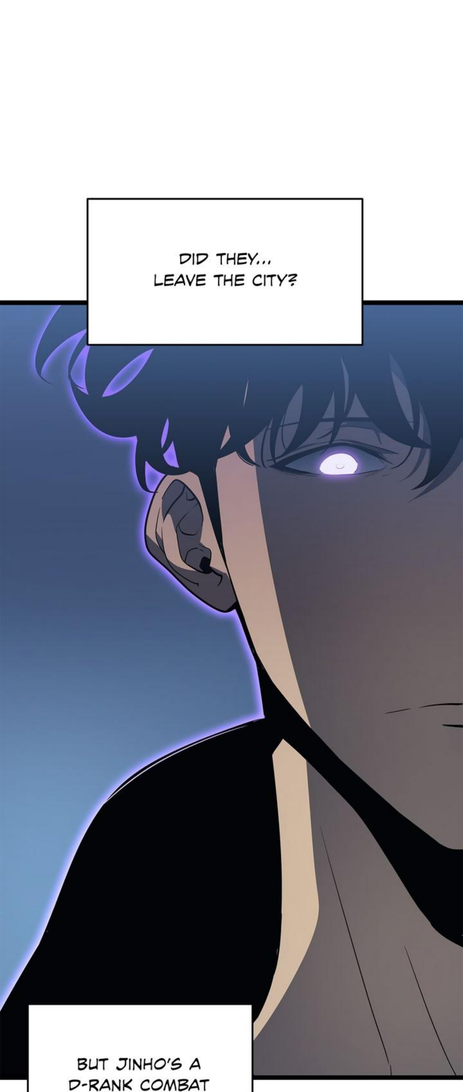
Solo Leveling

Art · DUBU(REDICE STUDIO)
Original Novel · Chugong
Story · h-goon

144

SMITH!
HOW HAVE YOU
BEEN THESE
DAYS?
OUR STORE DOESN'T
ACCEPT RETURNS DUE
TO CHANGE OF MIND...
WHY DIDN'T
YOU COME TO
THE PARTY
YESTERDAY?

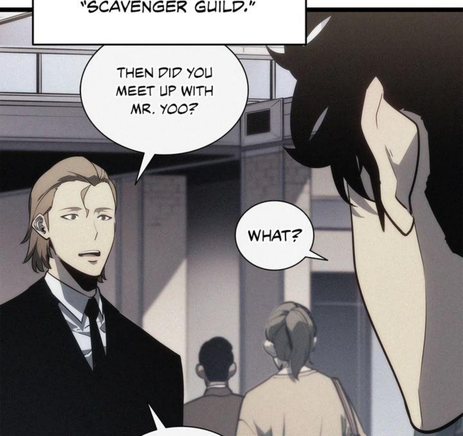


BUT JINHO'S A D-RANK COMBAT HUNTER.

NOT EVEN A HORDE OF CIVILIANS COULD TAKE HIM DOWN.

SO IF THE CAR THAT WAS SUPPOSED TO HEAD TO THE BUREAU BEGAN TO DRIVE AWAY FROM THE CITY, JINHO WOULD'VE NOTICED SOMETHING WAS OFF AND RESISTED...

THE ONLY CLUE THAT THE CULPRIT LEFT BEHIND IS THAT THEY'RE SOMEONE FROM THE "SCAVENGER GUILD."



HE LEFT AFTER GETTING A CALL FROM YOU.

A HUNTER FROM THE SCAVENGER GUILD, HUH...?

COULD IT BE HWANG DONGSUK'S YOUNGER BROTHER, HWANG DONGSOO?

WAS HE WAITING FOR US TO STEP FOOT IN THE UNITED STATES...

...TO FIND OUT THE TRUTH ABOUT HIS BROTHER'S DEATH?

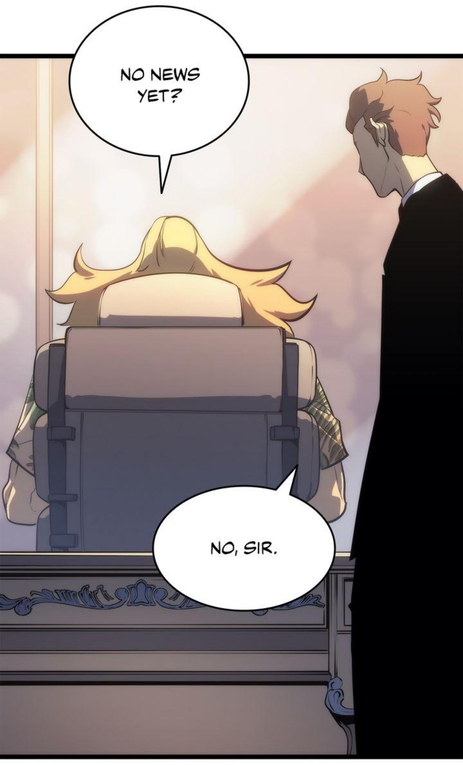
JINHO AND I WERE THE ONLY SURVIVORS OF THAT DUNGEON.

I'M SURE HWANG DONGSOO SUSPECTS US OF MURDERING HIS BROTHER.

WHO KNEW MR. WOO'S WARNING WOULD ACTUALLY COME TRUE?

I HIGHLY DOUBT AN E-RANKER LIKE YOU WAS ABLE TO DEFEAT A B-RANK HUNTER LIKE KANG TAESHIK...
...BECAUSE I DON'T THINK IT'S HELPFUL TO SUSPECT YOU AGAIN OF REAWAKENING.
HOWEVER, I'M JUST LETTING YOU KNOW...
SINCE YOU WON'T LAST LONG IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL.
THE INCIDENT WHERE HWANG DONGSUK'S SQUAD WAS WIPED OUT.
THE ONLY SURVIVORS OF THAT DUNGEON WERE YOU AND A D-RANK HUNTER.
BUT THE PROBLEM IS, HWANG DONGSUK'S YOUNGER BROTHER IS THE HUNTER, HWANG DONGSOO. CHANCES ARE, YOU TWO NOW HAVE A TARGET ON YOUR BACKS.
ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT S-RANK HUNTER, HWANG DONGSOO?
YES.

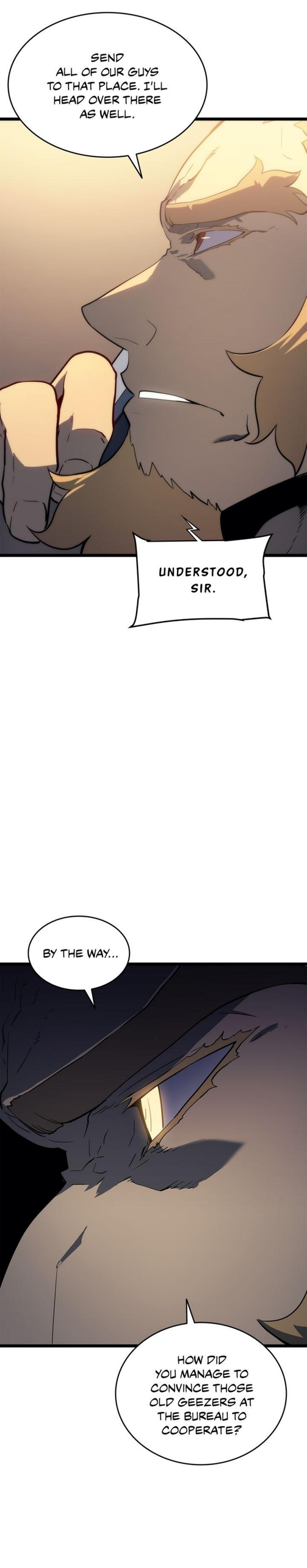
I DON'T REGRET WHAT I DID BACK THEN, BUT...
IT'S NOT THAT THE CHAIRMAN DIDN'T LOVE YOU.
YOU'RE BREAKING MY HEART.
HE JUST HAD HIGH EXPECTATIONS BECAUSE HE LOVED YOU SO MUCH.
...THIS WOULD'VE NEVER HAPPENED IF I HAD JUST ASSIGNED A SOLDIER TO GUARD JINHO.
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO HIM...


NO NEWS YET?
NO, SIR.

DOES HE NOT VALUE HIS LIFE?
NO, MR. HWANG IS AN S-RANK HUNTER.
HE MUST KNOW THE DIFFERENCE IN POWER BETWEEN HIM AND SUNG JINWOO.
SO THE FACT THAT HE STILL DID SOMETHING SO RECKLESS MEANS...
...HE KNOWS I'M GOING TO STEP IN.

HAVE I BEEN TOO KIND TO MY HUNTERS?
HOW ARE THINGS LOOKING, LAURA?

USING RECORDS FROM THE BUREAU, I ANALYZED ALL OF MR. HWANG'S MOVEMENTS FOR THE PAST MONTH...
...AND FOUND THREE INSTANCES OF HIM DEVIATING FROM HIS USUAL AREA OF ACTIVITY TO AN UNPLANNED LOCATION.


SEND ALL OF OUR GUYS TO THAT PLACE. I'LL HEAD OVER THERE AS WELL.
UNDERSTOOD, SIR.
BY THE WAY...
HOW DID YOU MANAGE TO CONVINCE THOSE OLD GEEZERS AT THE BUREAU TO COOPERATE?

I TOLD THEM THAT THERE MIGHT BE A CLASH BETWEEN YOU AND SUNG JINWOO IF WE DON'T FIND HWANG DONGSOO RIGHT AWAY.

ALL MEMBERS OF THE SCAVENGER GUILD ARE ON THE MOVE!

ALL 100 OF THEM?

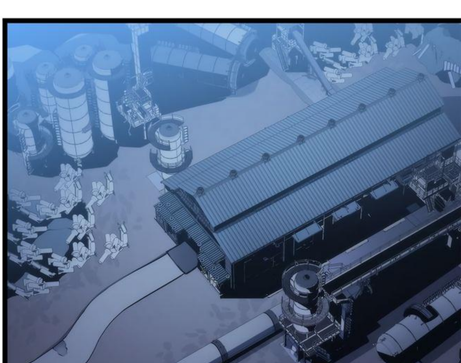
YES, SIR. THEY EVEN CANCELED THEIR SCHEDULED RAID JUST NOW.

ALL OF THEIR HUNTERS ARE HEADED SOMEWHERE.

IF THE ENTIRE SCAVENGER GUILD WAS DEPLOYED, THAT MEANS... THOMAS ANDRE IS THE ONE GIVING ORDERS.

THIS IS NO TRIFLING MATTER.

WHAT THE HELL... IS GOING ON?



ARE YOU SURE THIS IS OKAY?

I'M NOT GONNA DO ANYTHING BAD TO HIM.

THERE'S JUST ONE THING I NEED TO KNOW.

THE GUILD MASTER WARNED ME NOT TO MESS WITH SUNG JINWOO, BUT...

...I WAS NEVER GOING TO START SOMETHING WITH HIM.

AFTER ALL, THERE'S ONE OTHER PERSON WHO CAN ANSWER MY QUESTION.

I SAID I'D LET HIM GO IF HE TOLD ME THE TRUTH ABOUT WHAT HAPPENED TO MY BROTHER IN THE DUNGEON THAT DAY.

THERE'S ONLY ONE ANSWER I WANT TO HEAR.

"SUNG JINWOO KILLED YOUR BROTHER."

I'LL HAVE NO FURTHER BUSINESS WITH YOO JINHO ONCE I HEAR HIM SAY THOSE WORDS.

I SAID, WAKE UP!!
POW
I GUESS HE'S A TANK ALL RIGHT. HE'S HOLDING UP PRETTY WELL.
ANY AVERAGE PERSON WOULD'VE DIED ALREADY.
WHO WOULD'VE THOUGHT A DOPEY-LOOKING GUY LIKE HIM WOULD HAVE THE GUTS TO HOLD HIS TONGUE?
I APPLAUD HIS BRAVERY, BUT BEING STUBBORN WON'T GET HIM OUT OF THIS.

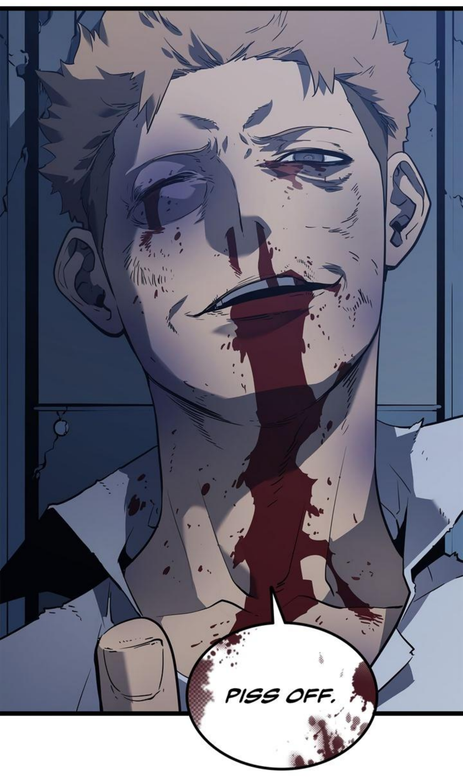
SMASH
LISTEN UP.
I DON'T PLAN ON KILLING YOU.

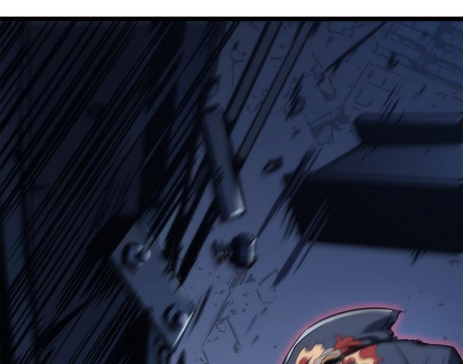
SEE THE GUY GRINNING NEXT TO ME? HE'S A PRETTY SKILLED HEALER.
HE'S GONNA HEAL YOU UP EACH TIME YOU'RE ON THE BRINK OF DEATH.
IN OTHER WORDS... UNTIL YOU TELL ME WHAT I WANT TO KNOW,
YOU'RE GONNA HAVE TO SUFFER IN PAIN FOREVER.
WHAT'S MORE, THIS IS A DEFUNCT FACTORY THAT'S BEEN SHUT DOWN FOR OVER FIVE YEARS NOW.
THAT MEANS NO MATTER HOW LOUD YOU SCREAM, NO ONE WILL COME TO YOUR RESCUE.

SO HOW ABOUT IT? FEEL LIKE TALKING YET?

WHAT?

...

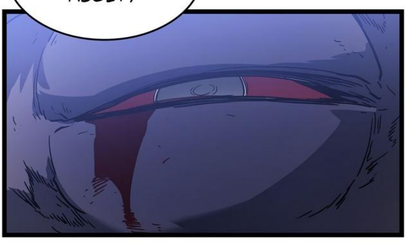

PISS OFF.



SLAM
EASY NOW, MR. HWANG.
I DON'T WANT TO GET SWEPT UP IN A MURDER JUST TO MAKE A FEW BUCKS.
...I'LL BE MORE CAREFUL.

I THINK YOU'VE TRIED YOUR BEST.

WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT?



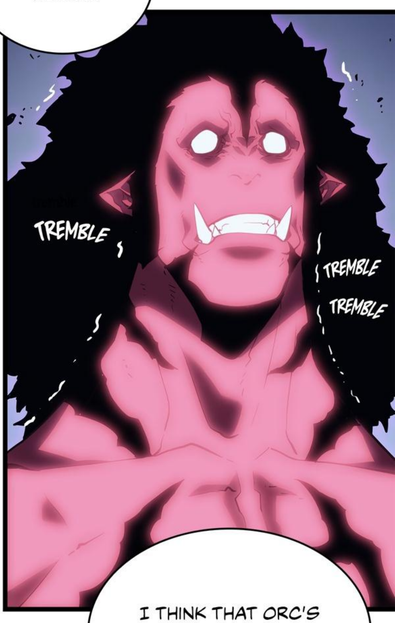
I'M JUST GETTING STARTED.

HUH?

WHAT'S THAT?

AN ORC?
DID A DUNGEON BREAK OCCUR NEARBY OR SOMETHING?

THAT'S WEIRD...

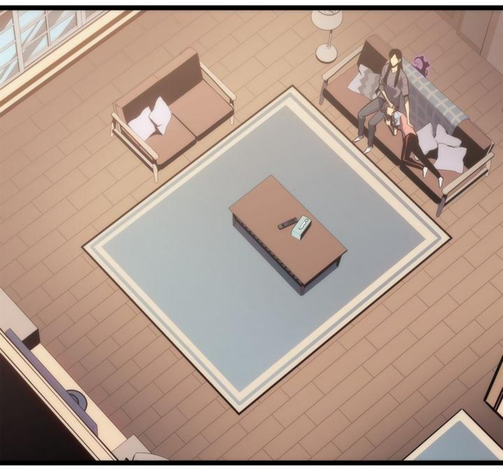


I THINK THAT ORC'S INTIMIDATED BY YOU, MR. HWANG.

WELL, I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR GAMES.

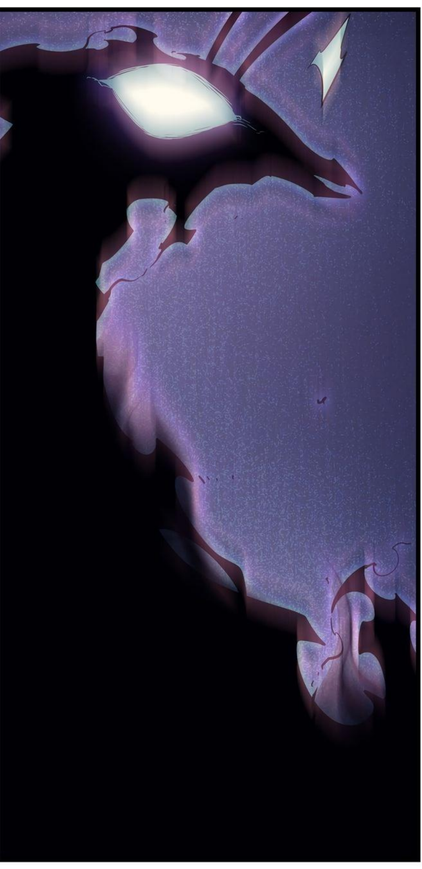
EXCHANGE.

I WONDER HOW JINWOO'S DOING...

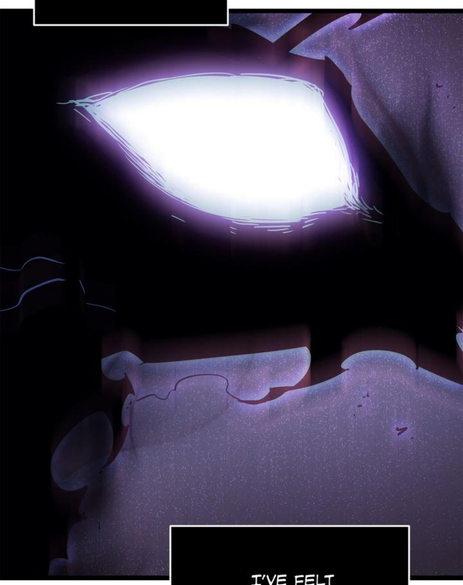


OH, QUEEN MOTHER...
NO ONE WILL BE ABLE TO SURVIVE AN ACCIDENT THAT PUTS HIS MAJESTY IN GRAVE DANGER.

NEXT UP, THE CONFERENCE HOSTED BY THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF HUNTERS...
NEWS
LOOK, JINAH. YOUR BROTHER'S ON TV.
REALLY?
MY KING...!



THIS FEELING...



I'VE FELT SOMETHING SIMILAR ONCE BEFORE.

THE KING IS FURIOUS.
THERE HAVE BEEN A LOT OF ACCIDENTS IN THE DUNGEONS LATELY, SO STAY SHARP OUT THERE.
LET'S MAKE SURE NOBODY GETS HURT!
YES, SIR!
WHOA!
HM? WHAT'S WRONG?

B, BOSS! I SAW YOUR SHADOW MOVE JUST NOW...

YOONTAE... WHAT DID I TELL YOU ABOUT DRINKING BEFORE A RAID?

I DIDN'T DRINK A SINGLE DROP TODAY!

I SWEAR, YOUR SHADOW WAS TREMBLIN' LIKE IT WAS ALIVE!

ALL RIGHT, THAT'S IT. TAKE THE DAY OFF.

I'M BEING SERIOUS, BOSS!!

VROOM

STOP THE CAR!
I'M SORRY?
I SAID, STOP THE CAR!

DAMN IT...
HAS IT ALREADY
BEGUN?

SCREECH

I'M GONNA GET GOING FIRST. FOLLOW ME TO THE LOCATION!
YES, SIR!

CLANK
BAM
BLAST

LOOKS LIKE WE'RE GOING TO BE FLOODED WITH DAMAGE CLAIMS AGAIN TOMORROW...
YEP, TELL ME ABOUT IT. I WISH HE WOULD'VE JUST TAKEN THE CAR...

WHOP

SPLURT

BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
BOOM
CLACK

To Be Continued...

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D&C WEBTOON BIZ

REDICE STUDIO

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